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State Library goes online with MOBIUS

The Missouri Bibliographic Information User System (MOBIUS) is a consortium of Missouri academic libraries and the State Library which was created in 1999 to provide an integrated online library system for member libraries. The original funding for this project came through budget requests to the Missouri General Assembly. All of Missouri's publicly funded universities and colleges and many private colleges are now online with MOBIUS.

The State Library is next to go online with MOBIUS. For several months, Reference Services and MOBIUS staff have been working to make the transition from the State Library's stand-alone automated library system to the MOBIUS shared environment. The State Library will be the first special library in the consortium and will add its library materials collection to the on-

line catalog. The State Library selects and acquires materials to meet the information needs of Missouri state government officials and staff in the performance of their duties. The State Library is also a full state documents depository and a selective depository for federal documents.

When the system is fully implemented at the State Library, the legislature, state officials, and state government staff will have access to the 16 million items in the consortia's online library catalog. State officials and employees will be able to search the catalog for books and journals, browse related titles and subjects, and place requests directly to the system from their desktops via the World Wide Web.

Improved service and information access for state officials will be a significant result of the State Library's migration to the MOBIUS system. Advantages of MOBIUS membership include:

(continued on page 2)



Oregon Public Library volunteer Wendy Ezzell reads *The Treehouse Detective Club* to children on the courtyard lawn. The library participates in the statewide summer library program, "Mysterious Summer." (Oregon Times Observer photo)

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State Library goes online

(continued from page 1)

- Direct access to the State Library's holdings via the World Wide Web
- Substantially decreased turnaround time for materials requested from member libraries
- Enhanced cooperation and sharing of resources with other libraries
- Integrated library processes and dedicated support

The State Library will begin circulation with the central-east region of Missouri in September. Full implementation to the statewide MOBIUS system is planned for January 2003.

In addition to sharing books, MOBIUS consortium members share the cost of electronic databases. Currently, two history databases are available: *America; History and Life* and *Historical Abstracts*. Beginning in September, the State Library will add *Applied Science Full Text* and *Education Full Text* to its list of databases available to state officials and employees.

Blunt approves after-school grants

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has approved two "After School Connections" grants totaling \$11,937. The grant funding is made available through the federal Library Services and Technology Act. Both projects will begin in the fall and conclude by the end of the year.

Daniel Boone Regional Library received \$9,105 for its project, "Telling Tales," which will feature an eight-week storytelling workshop at library locations in Columbia, Ashland, and Fulton. The project, intended for 4th, 5th, and 6th grade children who live below the poverty level, will focus on reading and writing enrichment activities. The library will use storytelling as a means to build reading, writing, and technology skills to stimulate library use and provide positive interactions with peers and adults. Project partners include the Columbia Housing Authority at Blind Boone Cen-

ter, YMCA, Southern Boone County Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops, Caring Communities, and Columbia Parks and Recreation.



Webb City Public Library's project, "Fun and Games at the Library," will be supported with a \$2,832 grant. The project will introduce fourth-grade students to the library's resources, with an emphasis on educational software programs, and reading and research activities. It will target children whose families do not have home computers. The library is collaborating with the Webb City Boys and Girls Club on the project, and the club will be responsible for identifying children who would benefit from the program and for transporting the children to and from the library programs.

After School Connections grants are intended to promote after-school experiences for youth who do not traditionally use the library. For more information about the grant program, contact Nancee Dahms-Stinson, youth and seniors consultant at the State Library, 800-325-0131, ext. 5.

Governor signs Internet access bill

House Bill 1402, signed by Governor Holden on July 11, requires Missouri public and school libraries to have Internet use policies "consistent with community standards" or to use filtering software on their public access Internet computers or to purchase Internet connectivity from a service provider that performs the same function. The intent of the legislation is to restrict minors from accessing pornography on the Internet. Policies or software must be in place by January 1, 2003. Those who comply with the legislation are not liable if a minor gains access to pornographic materials.

The Secretary of State's Office establishes rules and regulations to enforce the law. State Librarian Sara Parker and her staff will develop rules for the section of HB

1402 that relates to libraries and present a draft of the proposed rules at a public hearing. Citizens may also file written comments about the rules. When approved, the new administrative rule will be published in the *Code of State Regulations*.

State Library submits five-year plan to IMLS

The State Library has completed *Missouri Five-Year State Plan: 2003-2008, Library Services and Technology Act* and submitted the plan to the Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington, D.C. The plan outlines Missouri's proposed expenditures of federal library funds, and it addresses the needs expressed by Missouri library staff and governing bodies. State Librarian Sara Parker and consultants from the Library Development Division conducted or attended numerous meetings with library staff during the past 12 months in preparation for developing a new five-year plan. They also used questionnaires, surveys, and library program evaluations for background information.

What emerged from these discussions and assessments was general agreement on the importance of the following areas, which have been incorporated into the five-year plan:

- equity in library service
- continuing education for both library staff and governing bodies
- funding for digital resources
- recruitment of new talent for Missouri libraries
- support for cooperative library projects, partnership development, cultural and educational programs
- services for diverse populations, especially new immigrants
- equipment and programs for individuals with disabilities
- better evaluation of federally funded projects

The plan offers a concept-based approach which will result in funding programs that support excellence in library service, emphasize the importance of libraries within

their communities, acknowledge the need for partnerships with groups working to advance education and lifelong learning, and promote expansion of information resources through new technologies.

Public, academic, special, and school libraries will receive copies of the plan in the fall. The plan is also available in PDF format on the Web at www.sos.mo.gov/library (click on the title of the plan under "Special Reports").

Library groups challenge copyright term extension

The five major national library associations* filed a brief in May challenging the constitutionality of the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act. The appeal in *Eldred v. Ashcroft* asks the Supreme Court to overturn a decision by the federal appeals court for the D.C. Circuit, which in February 2002 rejected the argument that the Copyright Term Extension Act is unconstitutional. The Act, passed by Congress in 1998, extends the copyright term for an additional 20 years, so that a work is now governed by the provisions of copyright law for the "life of the author" plus 70 years. The federal government's brief, defending the law, was filed in June. The Supreme Court is expected to hear arguments from the parties this fall.

The library associations and several other groups submitted an *amici curiae* (friend of the court) brief asking the Supreme Court to rule that the extended term of protection for copyrighted works is unconstitutional. In addition to showing how the law exceeds the "limited times" of protection authorized by the Constitution's copyright clause, the brief highlights the importance of the public domain and the harm that flows from keeping works almost perpetually locked up.

* *American Library Association, American Association of Law Libraries, Association of Research Libraries, Medical Library Association, and Special Libraries Association*



Web Watch

Center for Defense Information

www.cdi.org

Authoritative site provides research on "social, economic, environmental, political, and military components of global security." Find information on terrorism, chemical and biological weapons, dirty bombs, and other intelligence and security issues; read the *Weekly Defense Monitor*, *CDI Russia Weekly*, and analysis of worldwide "hot spots."

Education Planet

www.educationplanet.com

Huge site with educator-approved resources and services for students, teachers, and parents. This "all-in-one education web guide" includes links to scholarship resources, lesson plans, weekly "top sites," most popular searches, science projects, math activities, and much more.

Who reads what?

www.gpl.lib.me.us

This annual list of celebrities' favorite reading has been published since 1988 by librarian Glenna Nowell, Gardiner (ME) Public Library. A list from 1988 to the present is available on the website.



Publishers' Page of Shame

A three-country online effort is underway to alert publishers about poorly manufactured books—new books that fall apart almost immediately upon release into circulation. The "Publishers' Page of Shame" collects data about defective books from public, academic, and school libraries in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. Titles are listed on a website, with separate tables for books reported single and multiple times. Libraries from 29 states, including Missouri, have contributed to the list.

To peruse the list, go to www.powerlink.net/wyvery/shame.html. Libraries interested in submitting titles to the list can go to the same site. To maintain the integrity and validity of the list, the compilers ask that librarians only report books purchased within the last six to nine months.

Call for Missouri digital imaging grants

The State Library has announced a new round of Digital Imaging Grants, funded through the federal Library Services and Technology Act. These grants provide funding for eligible libraries and their partners in the cultural heritage community to carry out demonstration projects that implement current standards and best practices in the selection, digital capture, storage, and delivery of collections via the World Wide Web. They are available to public libraries eligible for state aid; academic, school, and special libraries; and library consortia.

Grant projects must involve digital access to primary source materials, i.e., original historical and cultural materials, and not printed material or reproductions of original documents held by other cultural institutions the library may have purchased for reference purposes.

Application deadlines are October 16, 2002 (postmark date) and October 18, 2002

(received at the State Library by 5 p.m.).

For guidelines, definitions, and a downloadable application form, check the State Library's website at www.sos.mo.gov/library; click on "Library Development." Questions about the grant program should be directed to Carl Wingo, Library Development Division, 800-325-0131, ext. 12, or wingoc@sosmail.state.mo.us.

Grant applicant workshop scheduled

The State Library will also offer a workshop for prospective digital imaging grant applicants on September 13 at the James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center in Jefferson City. Speakers will include representatives from the Missouri Library Network Corporation, current digital imaging grantees, and the State Library. The workshop will be open to libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies.

To view some recent digitization projects, go to the Virtually Missouri website at www.virtuallymissouri.org.

Missouri's new family literacy law



House Bill 1711, signed by Governor Holden on June 19, recognizes family literacy as an integral part of education in the state. This new law will have significant impact on low-literate parents and their young children by allowing all school districts to develop family literacy programs. Other provisions of the law give incentives to low-performing school districts to offer family literacy programs as a strategy for improvement.

A number of factors bolster the need for family literacy programs in Missouri. Seventeen percent of the population age 16 and above (669,678 adults) scored in the lowest level of five literacy levels, according to the National Adult Literacy Survey. Generally, adults who score in Level 1 have difficulty performing everyday tasks, such as reading

and comprehending a short newspaper article or calculating total costs on an order form. Additionally, 25% of adult Missourians have not earned a high school diploma or its equivalency.

Family literacy programs bring together low-literate adults and their young children for a family-focused educational experience. Parents work toward a GED and learn parenting, life and work readiness skills while their children build a solid foundation for entering kindergarten, ready to read.

The family literacy aspects of HB 1711, championed by Senator Roseanne Bentley (R-Springfield), emerged from the work of the Missouri Family Literacy Initiative (MOFLI). The MOFLI is composed of leaders from a wide range of Missouri state agencies and organizations with the combined experience, expertise, and resources to change the way state agencies work together on issues related to family literacy. The State Library is represented on MOFLI by Karen Jones, the library's literacy consultant.

New selection for statewide ReadMOre project

Enemy Women, the first novel by Paulette Jiles, is the selection for the 2003 ReadMOre statewide reading campaign. The book is set in the Missouri Ozarks and St. Louis during the Civil War and has been widely praised for its literary quality, characterizations, and narrative. *Booklist* called the author "a gifted Missouri historian who brings to light many overlooked Civil War facts and acutely portrays Missouri's logistic misfortune as a hotbed of both Union and Confederate violence."

Published this past spring, *Enemy Women* was featured on the cover of *The New York Times Book Review*. It also became the second pick of ABC-TV's Good Morning America Reading Club.

Jiles is a critically acclaimed poet and memoirist and the recipient of many awards, among them the Canadian Governor General Award, Canada's highest literary honor. Born in Salem, Missouri, she attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City. A former resident of Canada, she now resides in San Antonio and is at work on a second novel. Her books include *North Spirit: Sojourns Among the Cree and Ojibway*; *Cousins*, and *The Jesse James Poems*.

"I'm really proud that my home state is recognizing me," Jiles said. She will travel to Missouri in the spring for ReadMOre programs in libraries and bookstores.

Kathleen Nigro, the ReadMOre coordinator, will prepare a reader's guide and be available for programs at participating libraries and organizations. She may be contacted at Litink@earthlink.net.



Community reading programs begin in Kansas City and Columbia



The Kansas City Metropolitan Library & Information Network (KCMLIN) and Daniel Boone Regional Library, Columbia, are co-operating to organize region-wide reading programs, both using the novel *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf. Kansas City's program is called "United We Read," and Columbia's is called "One Read."

The programs are modeled after similar reading campaigns in Seattle, Chicago, Rochester (NY), and many other communities around the country. Their goals are also similar: to encourage adults of all ages to read and talk about one book and to foster communication among diverse groups throughout the region.

In September and October, citizens in the Kansas City metropolitan area and in Boone and Callaway counties will have opportunities to participate in book discussions and other activities relating to the book. Both programs will culminate with a visit from the author in November.

The Metro-Area Reading Round Table (MARRT), a committee of KCMLIN, is coordinating the Kansas City program. Local libraries, bookstores, schools, senior centers, and businesses have signed on as sponsors. In the Columbia area, the Daniel Boone library is working with local media representatives, bookstores, and community organizations to publicize the program in the two-county area.

Points of reference

- In 2000, over 3.8 million people in Missouri were registered voters.

The number of registered voters in each Missouri county is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.mo/elections/registeredvoters.asp.

- Approximately seven out of 10 Missouri residents live in urban areas.

Population by urban and rural designation is available for the U.S., Missouri, and the state's towns and counties in Census 2000 demographic profiles at <http://mcdc2.missouri.edu/webrepts/sf3pros/moindex.html>.

- Missouri had the seventh lowest cost of living among states during the first quarter of 2002.

Cost of living, unemployment rates, occupational data and projections, and many other economic and occupational indicators for Missouri and areas within Missouri are available on the Department of Economic Development's website at www.ded.state.mo.us/business/researchandplanning.



newsline welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)



Hickory County opens new library building

The Hickory County Library in Hermitage held a festive grand opening on June 15, 2002, for its new building and updated facility. State and local dignitaries attended the event, which featured refreshments, book signings, and music. Guest speaker was C.W. Gusewelle, associate editor and columnist for *The Kansas City Star*, Emmy Award winner, and author of several books. Other special guests included State Librarian Sara Parker, Representative Delbert Scott, and authors Larry Dablemont, Rev. Paul Jones, and Vesta-Nadine Severs. Entertainment highlights included the New Blue Yonder bluegrass band, banjo and dulcimer artists, a demonstration of Native American flutes, and a skit by the local writers group.

In a statement about the new library, Robert Hite, chairman of the grand opening committee, said, "A library is the institution that allows access by all. After years of dedication, Hickory County can be proud of the growth and expansion of its library. This institution is as important as the courthouse or any bank in the county."

Approximately 350 people attended the ribbon cutting and day-long open house. Patrons were pleased with the light and open feeling of the new building and the fact that it is now handicap accessible. One of the first visitors, a wheelchair user, said she had been waiting years to visit the local library. The library also offers gallery space for local artists to display their work.

Adding to the library's recent good news was the receipt of a grant from the Missouri Humanities Council for sponsorship of a "Read From the Start" program. This program helps parents of preschoolers use reading activities to stimulate their children's development. Program participants receive a free seven-book starter library.

Puppets provide "hook" to bring kids to the library

Springfield-Greene County Library staff have developed an innovative project to attract children who might not otherwise have an incentive to visit the library. They have formed Amazing Library Puppeteer Troupes at the Midtown Carnegie and Kearney branch libraries.

Children's librarian Michelle Ballard came up with the idea to apply for a grant to form puppet troupes to induce at-risk children to visit libraries. The State Library approved a federal Library Services and Technology Act After School Connections grant for the project, which will consist of two eight-week series of programs for about 60 students from several middle schools.

Rosalie Perryman of RLP Puppet Company, whose popular programs at libraries have attracted thousands of young patrons over the years, will help the students design and make the puppets and the stage. Volunteers from Drury University and Central High School will work with the students in small groups as they write the scripts, practice, and present an original performance for their families and friends.

The programs are designed to show kids that learning can be fun and the library is a friendly, welcoming place to visit. The children will create a project in which they can take pride, and they will know there are librarians, college, and high school students in the community who are interested in their welfare.

"It's a wonderful project because it allows us to reach out to students and provide them with a positive experience that will lead them to the opportunities libraries offer," said youth services coordinator Vera Florea.

Moberly library offers Spanish classes

Little Dixie Regional Libraries offers Spanish classes for adults at its Moberly headquarters during the summer. Classes meet once a week, and two sessions are available, one in the morning and the other in the

evening. Students learn vowel sounds, pronunciation, basic vocabulary, and useful phrases.

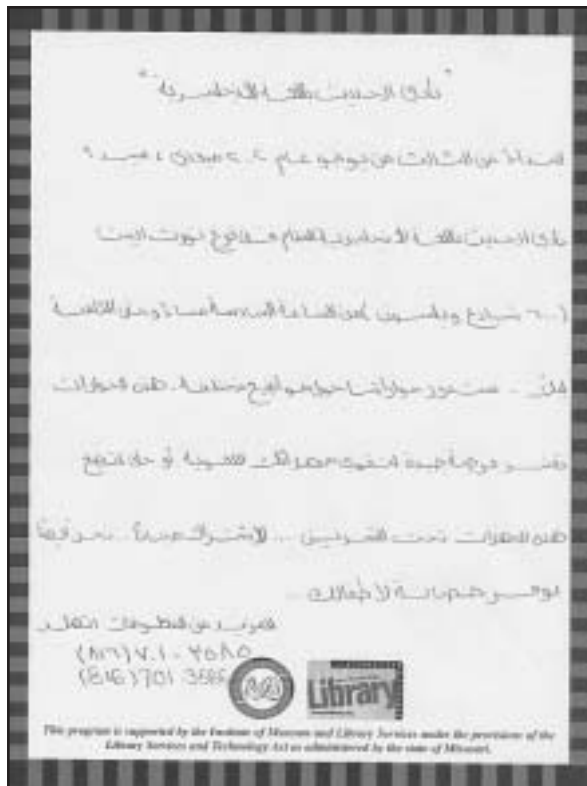
Beverly Holder, a library staff member who has a strong academic background in Spanish, teaches the classes and limits enrollment to 10 students per class so she can spend more time with each student. The library provides all class materials.

Library ESL classes prove successful in Kansas City

Kansas City Public Library started an English as a Second Language (ESL) Conversation Club in June after receiving a federal Library Services and Technology Act grant. The club meets every Monday evening at the North-East Branch Library and will continue until December. The group breaks up its time into segments of practice tasks—conversation clusters, worksheets to practice “new” English words, and tours of the library to “talk” about the resources available. Children have separate activities during club time and enjoy activities such as storytimes, sidewalk chalking, or a craft.

The library developed an extensive promotional plan for the club that included television spots, posters and flyers in five languages (Spanish, Somali, Arabic, Vietnamese, and English), purchased ad space in a new weekly Spanish shopper, and listings in *The Kansas City Star's* community calendar and on the library's calendar of events. Information was posted in groceries, restaurants, laundromats, and other gathering places that people in the northeast area visit regularly.

Jami Schaefer, the library's community affairs supervisor, related a story about a woman from northern Mexico who has been trying for a few years to better her English-speaking skills: “*The woman had contacted a community college in the area to take an English class, but it was just too expensive for her. She takes her daughters to the library on a regular basis, and when the staff began ‘promoting’ the class in the library, she heard about it. She has been to the class every week since the group start-*



Poster in Somali promotes English as a Second Language classes at Kansas City Public Library's Northeast Branch.

ed. She cries when she talks about how happy she is to be able to improve her skills so she can find a better job and feel more at ease in the Kansas City area.”

Kirkwood Public Library celebrates Steinbeck centennial

Kirkwood Public Library will celebrate the legacy of John Steinbeck, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the Nobel Prize for Literature, and the U.S. Medal of Freedom, when the library hosts a discussion series, “America's Dispossessed: In the Tradition of John Steinbeck.” The series, an official activity of the John Steinbeck 2002 Centennial, will take place in September and October. It is funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities and local contributions.

“Try and understand each other,” the credo of the author described as the Bard of the American Worker, underlies the programs, which focus on four groups. They

More Library News



Employee background checks

The Missouri Highway Patrol will do background checks for employers who request information on individuals seeking employment in their organization or business. The service costs \$5.00 (check or cash).

To request this service, send a letter including the applicant's name, date of birth, Social Security number, and a return address to: Missouri State Highway Patrol, Criminal Records Division, PO Box 568, Jefferson City, MO 65102. For questions about the service, call 573-526-6153.

Better salaries and pay equity for library workers?

For the first time in its 126-year history, the American Library Association is addressing librarian and library worker wages in a large-scale effort.

The Campaign for America's Librarians, formed by The Special Presidential Task Force on Better Salaries and Pay Equity for Library Workers, is part of an initiative of ALA president-elect Maurice J. Freedman. The task force and campaign plan to address the low salaries for library employees, especially in relation to predominately male professions and occupations with similar educational and other requirements.

For more information on the task force or campaign, visit www.mjfreedman.org/tfhome.html.



St. Charles City-County Library plans a new branch in the WingHaven planned community.

include: Dust Bowl migrants, as portrayed in Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*; Native Americans forcibly relocated on the *Trail of Tears*; displaced African-American farm workers who participated in the 1939 Missouri sharecroppers' strike; and today's working poor, as described in author Barbara Ehrenreich's *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America*.

Dr. Kathleen Nigro, the library's scholar-in-residence, Dr. Fred Fausz, professor of history at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and Lynn Rubright, producer of the film "Oh Freedom After While" will lead the programs.

A Library Express for St. Charles County

St. Charles City-County Library will open a new facility in the Boardwalk Market Place, a retail complex in the WingHaven planned community in O'Fallon. WingHaven is a residential and high-tech office development developed in the New Urbanism style, which offers denser neighborhoods, retail and work areas within walking distance, and a small-town feel. The library will buy the land and a 6,100-square-foot building to be constructed by the seller. The building will

be delivered to the library complete except for final interior finishes.

The library chose the location to relieve the pressure on its highest circulating branch—Middendorf-Kredell—and increase service in a densely populated area of the county. To be named the Library Express at WingHaven, the library will occupy 2,500 square feet of the single-story building, and a coffee shop will occupy 2,000 square feet. The library district will rent the remainder of the space to other tenants.

The interior design will be similar to a bookstore with comfortable seating and tables and chairs for enjoying coffee and other refreshments while reading. The collection of more than 16,000 items will be made up of popular materials, CDs, DVDs, and video-tapes. No print reference materials will be available; however, patrons will have access to Internet computers and full access to the entire library district's circulating collection through its online catalog. The goal is for requested materials to be delivered to patrons within 48 hours. Library officials estimate the new facility will serve 12,000 to 15,000 residents and circulate 200,000 items a year.

The Library Express will be built and operated without a tax increase. Construction will begin in late summer, with the library scheduled to open in the spring of 2003.

Personal Notes

Appointments

Cathy Dame has been named director of the Lebanon-Laclede County Library. She replaces longtime director Patricia Lamb.

Dame has served as the library's technical services director since 1995. She earned a B.A. in religious studies from Southwest Missouri State University and an M.L.S. from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

She will be involved in planning a new library building and working with the board in their efforts to raise funds for the project.

Shirley Gollhoffer has been appointed director of the Neosho-Newton County Library. A Wyoming native, Gollhoffer came to Missouri in 1976 and taught English, speech, drama, and social studies at Diamond High School. She has also been an adjunct faculty member at Crowder College for the past 16 years. She holds a B.S. in education from Missouri Southern State College, and plans to begin work on an M.L.S.

Pam Hunter is the new director of Sedalia Public Library, her hometown library. She has served as director of the libraries in Marshall and Brookfield, as business manager and interim director of the Samuels Public Library in Front Royal, Virginia, and as community services librarian at the Sullivan County Public Library in Blountville, Tennessee.

Hunter received a B.A. in English from Arkansas State University and is completing a master's degree in library science from Central Missouri State University.

The University of Missouri-Kansas City has announced two appointments: **Teresa Welsh** as the library school clinical instructor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries, and **Chris Le Beau** as business reference librarian at the Miller Nichols Library.

The clinical instructor position is a new collaboration between the UMKC University

Libraries and the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Information Science and Learning Technologies (SISLT), facilitating a stronger Kansas City presence for the SISLT.

Welsh received a Ph.D in communications at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. From the same institution, she also earned an M.S. in library and information science. Her B.A. in anthropology is from the University of Southern Mississippi. Her former experience includes service at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (TN) as a senior research assistant and a database consultant.

LeBeau was previously reference librarian and coordinator of electronic services at Creighton University (NE). She earned a B.A. at Marymount College (NY), an M.L.S. at Long Island University, and an M.B.A. at Creighton University.

Retirement

Tyron D. Emerick, staff librarian at Western Missouri Mental Health Center, Kansas City, since 1985, retired June 30, 2002. His library career spanned 40 years and encompassed service in school, public, academic, and special libraries in Missouri and several other states. He held leadership roles in the Missouri Library Association and was a co-founder and president of MLA's Health Science (now Special Libraries) Council and served as president of the Kansas City Metropolitan Library Network in the early 1990s and again in the early 2000s.

Emerick received a B.S. in education from Northwest Missouri State University and an M.L.S. from Emporia State University (KS).

Deaths

Aletha Whittington, the first director of Gentry County Library, died July 1, 2002. She became the county librarian in 1956 when the library was in the back of the Trenton City Hall. The library's first collection of 2,145 used books came from the State Library. The collection increased substantially during Whittington's tenure, and when she retired in 1993, the collection numbered 55,000 books and other materials.

Upcoming Events



September is Library Card Month

September 5-6
Missouri Census Data Center
Annual Conference
Jefferson City

September 8
International Literacy Day

September 12
Secretary's Council on
Library Development
Meeting
Jefferson City

September 17
Bridging the Gap Workshop
Ellisville

September 19
Bridging the Gap Workshop
Springfield

September 21-28
Banned Books Week

October 2-4
Missouri Library Association
Annual Conference
Kansas City

October 12
National Book Festival
Washington, DC

October 13-19
Teen Read Week

Missouri literary press celebrates 30 years

Authors, librarians, and readers celebrated the founding of BkMk (Bookmark) Press in June with an evening of readings, exhibits, and remembrances at the Johnson County (KS) Central Resource Library.

Now part of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the press was founded in 1972 by Dan Jaffe, a poet and professor of English at UMKC, and Roy Fox, former director of the Johnson County Library. It was housed at the county library and its first book, an anthology of Kansas City area writers, was published in 1975.

The press publishes four to six titles a year and has more than 80 titles in print. Its list emphasizes writers from the Midwest.

Correction:

Sam Franklin is incorrectly identified in the photo on the cover of the July 2002 *Newsline*. Franklin is the English as a Second Language coordinator for the St. Louis Public Library; he is not a Verizon employee.

Whittington retired in 1995, and in 1997 donated \$100,000 to the library as the beginning of a building fund. In 2000, she had the honor of turning over the first shovel-full of dirt at the site for the new library, and last year, she saw completion of a new county library building.

Betty Powell, former director of Mississippi

County Library, died July 3, 2002. She began work at the county library in 1947, was appointed director in 1951, and retired in 1978.

Powell graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a B.S. in education and an M.A. in library science. She spent six years researching and working on *The History of Mississippi County—Beginning Through 1972*, which was published in 1975.

Missouri libraries' ranking on key measures

Measure	Missouri	U.S.	MO rank among states*
Number of library visits per capita	4.95	4.26	19
Number of reference transactions per capita	1.27	1.12	9
Number of circulation transactions per capita	8.41	6.45	13
Number of interlibrary loans received per 1,000 population	25.59	55.13	28
Number of book & serial volumes per capita	4.90	2.85	4
Number of audio materials per 1,000 population	142.62	112.42	10
Number of video materials per 1,000 population	81.40	73.51	21
Number of current serial subscriptions per 1,000 population	14.02	7.18	3
Total number of paid FTE staff per 25,000 population	15.52	12.18	10
Number of paid FTE librarians per 25,000 population	3.76	3.98	33
Number of paid FTE librarians with ALA-MLS per 25,000 population	1.96	2.74	32
Number of other paid FTE staff per 25,000 population	11.77	8.20	6
Total income per capita	\$ 30.08	\$ 27.20	15
State income per capita	\$ 0.61	\$ 3.45	35
Local income per capita	\$ 25.35	\$ 21.13	14
Other income per capita	\$ 3.74	\$ 2.44	10
Total operating expenditures per capita	\$ 24.71	\$ 25.25	21
Total collections expenditures per capita	\$ 4.90	\$ 3.86	10
Total staff expenditures per capita	\$ 15.02	\$ 16.15	23
Salaries & wages expenditures per capita	\$ 12.47	\$ 13.16	22

* Although not a state, the District of Columbia is included in the state rankings

Source: *Public Libraries in the United States: Fiscal Year 1999* (NCES 2002-308). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2002; document available on the Web at: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/2002308.pdf>

Now available online

Early court cases document Missouri history

The Missouri State Archives, in cooperation with the American Culture Studies Program at Washington University, St. Louis, and the St. Louis Circuit Clerk's Office, is making available online a series of 81 circuit court cases relating to Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, and some members of the Corps of Discovery. The records, previously unknown to history, are provided without any access restrictions or charges.

The case files are court actions in which Lewis, Clark, or expedition members are defendants, plaintiffs, or play a prominent role. The cases include documents dating from 1804 to 1833 and provide interesting insight into the lives of Lewis and Clark in St. Louis after they returned from the Corps of Discovery expedition. With this collection of digitized court records, historians, scholars, and others interested in Missouri history can begin their own "voyage of discovery" into the lives of these famous explorers.

As an official project of the Save America's Treasures initiative, the case files project consists of conservation treatment of the documents, followed by preservation microfilming that will make them available for research. It is a huge project involving student interns from Washington University, St. Louis University, and Central Missouri State University. An academic advisory committee representing the three universities and the State Archives helps select series for digitization and discusses methods to stimulate research and teaching using the records.

In addition to Lewis and Clark, the records include cases involving leading figures of the westward expansion such as U.S. Senator Thomas Hart Benton, Moses and Stephen F. Austin, St. Louis's founder Auguste Chouteau, the original Dred Scott case, and more than 270 freedom suits (the freedom suits will be available online in the fall of 2002).

To view the cases, go to <http://www.stl-courtrecords.wustl.edu/about-lewis-and-clark-series.cfm>.



Missouri State Archives field archivist Mike Everman and St. Louis intern Janet Joerling-Leonard work on St. Louis Circuit Court documents.

Billy Collins appointed to second term

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington has appointed Billy Collins to serve a second term as Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry. Collins' "Poetry 180" program, available on the library's website at www.loc.gov/poetry/180, has been greeted with great enthusiasm across the country. He designed the website to make it easy for high school students to hear or read a poem each day of the approximately 180 days of the school year. He selected the poems with high school students in mind.

The recipient of numerous fellowships and other honors, Collins is distinguished professor of English at Lehman College, City University of New York, where he has taught for the past 30 years. He is also a writer-in-residence at Sarah Lawrence University, and has served as a Literary Lion of the New York Public Library.

Top 10 books for reading groups

Following are the Book Sense independent booksellers' picks of the best books for reading groups. They are deemed to be the books that have been, and continue to be, the most popular choices of groups.

Booksellers recommend them for their quality, subject matter, and discussion value. The top 10 vote-getters:

1. *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
2. *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant
3. *Girl with a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier
4. *House of Sand and Fog* by Andre Dubus III
5. *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden
6. *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell
7. *The Hours* by Michael Cunningham
8. *The Angle of Repose* by Wallace Stegner
9. *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
10. *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf

Online book club for librarians

The Librarian's Book Club is a group that reads and discusses books about libraries and the library profession. Every two months, the club selects a new book to discuss; recent titles include *The Myth of the Paperless Office*, *The Future of Ideas*, and *Scrolling Forward: Making Sense of Documents in the Digital Age*.

To view current and previous selections and to subscribe to the discussion list, go to <http://culaw2creighton.edu/library/lbc>.

Library licenses for video programming



As most librarians know, federal copyright law states that libraries must obtain a license to have the right to show videocas-

settes and DVDs within their facilities. Although some video programs contain public performance rights, many do not and require permission from the copyright holders for their exhibition. Since 1987, Motion Picture Licensing Corp. (MPLC) has provided Umbrella Licenses for over 60,000 locations across the United States, as well as hundreds of libraries. MPLC grants a simple one-stop license at a low annual fee and allows the unlimited use of purchased, rented, or borrowed films of their affiliated studios and producers. In addition, libraries need

not keep records or report the use of videocassettes to MPLC.

Thanks in part to the request of MPLC's member library licensees, the selection of producers now includes major and independent studios from Disney and Warner Bros. to Artisan and Sony Pictures Classics, representing the best in major Hollywood blockbusters and foreign films. The license also covers numerous educational and family values producers as well, from Scholastic Entertainment and McGraw-Hill to Tommy Nelson and Vision Video. More than 60 producers are included in the Umbrella License, representing the most diverse list of producers available.

For more information regarding copyright law and MPLC's Umbrella License, call 800-462-8855 or visit www.mplc.com.

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